

against the proposition: “The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to provide for an exemption from ad valorem taxation of all or part of the market value of the residence homestead of the surviving spouse of a 100 percent or totally disabled veteran.”

Adopted by the Senate on May 12, 2011: Yeas 31, Nays 0; adopted by the House on May 24, 2011: Yeas 143, Nays 0, two present not voting.

Filed with the Secretary of State May 27, 2011.

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### S.J.R. No. 16

#### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment providing for the appraisal for ad valorem tax purposes of open-space land devoted to water-stewardship purposes on the basis of its productive capacity.

*BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 1–d–1, Article VIII, Texas Constitution, is amended to read as follows:

(a) To promote the preservation of open-space land, the legislature shall provide by general law for taxation of open-space land devoted to farm, ranch, ~~or~~ wildlife management, or water-stewardship purposes on the basis of its productive capacity and may provide by general law for taxation of open-space land devoted to timber production on the basis of its productive capacity. The legislature by general law may provide eligibility limitations under this section and may impose sanctions in furtherance of the taxation policy of this section.

SECTION 2. The following temporary provision is added to the Texas Constitution:

*TEMPORARY PROVISION. (a) This temporary provision applies to the constitutional amendment proposed by the 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011, providing for the appraisal for ad valorem tax purposes of open-space land devoted to water-stewardship purposes on the basis of its productive capacity.*

*(b) The amendment to Section 1–d–1(a), Article VIII, of this constitution takes effect January 1, 2012.*

*(c) This temporary provision expires January 1, 2013.*

SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8, 2011. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: “The constitutional amendment providing for the appraisal for ad valorem tax purposes of open-space land devoted to water-stewardship purposes on the basis of its productive capacity.”

Adopted by the Senate on April 12, 2011: Yeas 31, Nays 0; adopted by the House on May 21, 2011: Yeas 143, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Filed with the Secretary of State May 25, 2011.

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### S.J.R. No. 26

#### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to allow cities or counties to enter into interlocal contracts with other cities or counties without the imposition of a tax or the provision of a sinking fund.

*BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Section 5, Article XI, Texas Constitution, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5. (a) Cities having more than five thousand (5000) inhabitants may, by a majority vote of the qualified voters of said city, at an election held for that purpose, adopt or amend their charters. If the number of inhabitants of cities that have adopted or amended their charters under this section is reduced to five thousand (5000) or fewer, the cities still may

amend their charters by a majority vote of the qualified voters of said city at an election held for that purpose. The adoption or amendment of charters is subject to such limitations as may be prescribed by the Legislature, and no charter or any ordinance passed under said charter shall contain any provision inconsistent with the Constitution of the State, or of the general laws enacted by the Legislature of this State. Said cities may levy, assess and collect such taxes as may be authorized by law or by their charters; but no tax for any purpose shall ever be lawful for any one year, which shall exceed two and one-half per cent. of the taxable property of such city, and no debt shall ever be created by any city, unless at the same time provision be made to assess and collect annually a sufficient sum to pay the interest thereon and creating a sinking fund of at least two per cent. thereon, *except as provided by Subsection (b)*. Furthermore, no city charter shall be altered, amended or repealed oftener than every two years.

*(b) To increase efficiency and effectiveness to the greatest extent possible, the legislature may by general law authorize cities to enter into interlocal contracts with other cities or counties without meeting the assessment and sinking fund requirements under Subsection (a).*

SECTION 2. Section 7, Article XI, Texas Constitution, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 7. (a) All counties and cities bordering on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico are hereby authorized upon a vote of the majority of the qualified voters voting thereon at an election called for such purpose to levy and collect such tax for construction of sea walls, breakwaters, or sanitary purposes, as may now or may hereafter be authorized by law, and may create a debt for such works and issue bonds in evidence thereof. But no debt for any purpose shall ever be incurred in any manner by any city or county unless provision is made, at the time of creating the same, for levying and collecting a sufficient tax to pay the interest thereon and provide at least two per cent (2%) as a sinking fund, *except as provided by Subsection (b)*; and the condemnation of the right of way for the erection of such works shall be fully provided for.

*(b) To increase efficiency and effectiveness to the greatest extent possible, the legislature may by general law authorize cities or counties to enter into interlocal contracts with other cities or counties without meeting the tax and sinking fund requirements under Subsection (a).*

SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 8, 2011. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the legislature to allow cities or counties to enter into interlocal contracts with other cities or counties without the imposition of a tax or the provision of a sinking fund."

Adopted by the Senate on March 31, 2011: Yeas 31, Nays 0; adopted by the House on May 24, 2011: Yeas 144, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Filed with the Secretary of State May 27, 2011.

## S.J.R. No. 28

### SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment relating to the provision of parks and recreational facilities by conservation and reclamation districts in El Paso County.

*BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Legislature of the State of Texas:*

SECTION 1. Subsection (c-1), Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, is amended to read as follows:

(c-1) In addition and only as provided by this subsection, the Legislature may authorize conservation and reclamation districts to develop and finance with taxes those types and categories of parks and recreational facilities that were not authorized by this section to be developed and financed with taxes before September 13, 2003. For development of such parks and recreational facilities, the Legislature may authorize indebtedness payable from taxes as may be necessary to provide for improvements and maintenance only for a